SUMMERSDALE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 24 July 2025

At St Paul's Church, chichester

www.summersdaleresidents.co.uk

Residents Working Together

Present:	**Mrs Jill Shaw – Chairman**	**Mr Robert Lapraik – Goodwood Liaison**
	Mrs Pauline Sutton – without portfolio (PS2)	**Mr Ray Carter – Environmental & Trees**
	Mrs Janet Leonard – Minutes Secretary	**Mr Peter Bickley – Treasurer**
	Mrs Barbara Dart - Membership	

1. Welcome.

JS welcomed all committee members attending, and also WSCC Councillor Mr Jeremy Hunt, CDC Member Mr Jonathan Brown and Mr David Cook, treasurer of Friends of Oaklands Park.

2. Apologies.

Dr Paul Stross.

3. Approval of minutes of 19 June 2025.

Approved and signed by JS.

4. Matters arising not mentioned in minutes.

None

5. Open Forum.

No matters brought forward.

6. Chairman's Report

JS outlined the reasons for asking Jonathan Brown to attend the meeting. With the upcoming Local Government reorganization/unitarization looking likely to happen, the District and County Councils will cease to exist. The new council will be 3-4 times the size of Chichester District and if a unitary council is created covering the whole of West Sussex it will be 8 times the size of CDC. With the possibility of budgetary constraints, CDC is therefore asking parishes and other groups if they would be interested in acquiring some assets from CDC to enable them to be run locally. This is in the initial stages of discussion along with other ideas for the LGR so far.

7. Mr Jonathan Brown – Community Asset Transfer Policy

Mr Brown expanded on the idea of local communities taking over assets and land from the ownership of CDC. Many of the places in question were very small – road verges, open spaces within developments etc., but some were much larger, such as Oaklands Park and Brandy Hole Copse. There is no obligation on any community to take over an asset in their area, and if there are no takers then the asset will remain under the control of the new council. If funds are tight, some of these assets might not receive the investment they had previously enjoyed, so some groups might consider acquiring them. Those doing so must not be seen to do so for gain or profit. Much discussion flowed from these principles, some on the legal position, open spaces being designated village greens and covenants on existing assets. It is clear that this is a far more complex proposal than it sounds, and discussions are ongoing. JS agreed to contact tbe City Council to understand their position.

8. Autumn Newsletter

JS said that Alicia has requested copy be sent to her by 6 September. JH will approach his contact at Rolls Royce to see if an article on the new development can be provided. RL will contact Goodwood for some content, RC will write an article on Brandy Hole Copse from its discovery to the present day, Vanessa Stern has a neighbourhood watch article on on-line scams, Alicia will write on food waste collection and PS2 will ask Ray McGlone for some copy. JH will do an article on the status of the Local Government Reorganization as at September and JS will do an article on CDC asset transfer and what SRA are doing if appropriate by September.

9. Attracting new members

This item will be moved to the agenda of the next meeting.

10. Roads

JH reported that a speed check of traffic using Brandy Hole Lane had revealed the average speed of all vehicles was 25.9mph. Unfortunately, a speed of 26mph is required before Highways will install speed-reducing measures. JH to meet with Highways to discuss. More lines will be painted to give the impression of a narrower carriageway to slow vehicles down, and another speed test carried out. Speed bumps require planning permission but speed "cushions" could be installed.

11. Trees – SRA and Goodwood offer

RL has written to Mark Gibb at Goodwood and he will progress this.

12. Environment Report

RC reported that a recent application had been submitted to fell a lime tree in Fordwater Lane which is showing signs of decay. There will be replacement planting, which will include a maple.

SRA made application to fund a further 6 trees in Summerdale under the WSCC Donate a Tree Scheme. The application was approved by WSCC Highways and payment made by SRA. The trees are:

Westbury/Trees in Chestnut Avenue – Carpinus betulus Frans Fontaine

11 Chestnut Avenue – Tilia Chordata

Highland Road – Pyrus calleryana Chanticleer

Summersdale Road – Prunus Umineko

The Broadway – Prunus ceraifera Nigra

The Drive – Acer camestre Elsrijk

13. Planning Report

One new application was noted:

25/01547/DOM. 32 Brandy Hole Lane. Replacement garage, two storey porch extension, replacement windows and removal of bay, raised roof, roof lights, addition of swimming pool, outbuildings with gym and part single/part 2 storey rear extension. No reason to object.

A full list of all applications is available to view on the SRA website.

14. Website

No report at this meeting.

15. Goodwood Report

RL reported a quiet period apart from a few noise complaints. He reported that some planes are taking off and going due west. He will discuss this with Mark Gibb at the next (delayed) GACC meeting on 31 July.

16. Membership numbers

Membership numbers remain at 376.

17. Treasusrer's Report

Account balances

Treasurer's account

Lloyds Bank	£973.59 (inc £75.10 held on behalf of Network of Chichester Residents Associations). The balance is after paying WSCC £1,542 for 6 trees

Interest bearing a/cs

Lloyds Bank Business Instant Access a/c 1%	£0.01
United Trust Bank (Interest due 31 October)	
Business 100 day notice a/c 3.9%	£5,343.40
Business 40 day notice a/c 3.8%	£8,492.20

18. Date of next meeting

4th September 2025 at St Paul's Church

Due to bookings by other organisations, SRA are not able to have the use of St Michael's Hall in April, July or September 2026. Going to St Paul's Church is an option for normal meetings but not for the AGM, which is planned for April in 2026. JS to find out what other dates are available.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm.